

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A method of making a spherical crocheted object, comprising:  
  
crocheting an initial disc;  
  
sewing embroidery onto a crocheted surface of the initial disc;  
  
crocheting further onto the initial disc after sewing the embroidery; and  
  
forming the further crocheted material into a substantially spherical shape.
2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the embroidery forms an embroidered design on a surface of the initial disc.
3. (original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the step of sewing the embroidery comprises forming an embroidery using thread of a material selected from the group consisting of cotton, rayon, dacron, polyester, acrylic, silk, and other specialty synthetic materials or combinations thereof.
4. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the embroidery forms a dimension and wherein a maximum dimension of the embroidery does not exceed the diameter of the initial disc.
5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the initial disc has a diameter of equal to or less than about 30% of a circumference of the spherical shape.
6. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the initial disc has a diameter of equal to or less than about 30% of a circumference of the spherical shape.
7. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of crocheting further onto the initial disc after sewing the embroidery forms sides of around 36% to around 46% of the total number of crocheted rows of the object.

8. (original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the crocheting of the initial disc has rows and wherein needle stitches of the embroidery should remain at least one, preferably two embroidery rows away from the edge of the initial disc.
9. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the crocheting of the initial disc has rows and wherein needle stitches of the embroidery should remain at least one, preferably two embroidery rows away from the edge of the initial disc.
10. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the rows of crocheting form a spiral.
11. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sewing of the embroidery on the initial disc is performed on a substantially flat initial disc.
12. (original) A method according to claim 11, wherein a commercial grade embroidery machine performs the sewing of the embroidery.
13. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sewing of the embroidery is performed by hand.
14. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of forming the further crocheted material into a spherical shape pulls the threads of the crocheting upward to urge the initial disc into a spherical shape.
15. (original) A method according to claim 14, wherein the step of forming the further crocheted material into a spherical shape pulls the threads of the crocheting upward to urge the initial disc into a substantially spherical shape and begins to form a cylinder until the cylinder is brought together at the top and the interior filled to form a ball.

16. (previously presented) A crocheted ball of substantially spherical shape comprising an embroidered portion embroidered onto a crocheted surface of the crocheted ball, wherein a maximum dimension of the embroidered portion has a diameter of no greater than about 30% of a circumference of the substantially spherical shape.
17. (cancelled)
18. (original) A crocheted ball according to claim 16, wherein the maximum dimension of the embroidered portion has a diameter of no more than approximately 2.25 inches and the spherical shape has a circumference of approximately 7.5' inches.
19. (currently amended) A crocheted ball according to claim 16, wherein the embroidered portion has characteristics sufficient to promulgate a high resolution message, logo, slogan, or advertisement ~~or like image~~.
20. (currently amended) A crocheted ball according to claim 19, wherein the high resolution message, logo, slogan, or advertisement ~~or like image~~ has a resolution of about 80 lines per inch.
21. (previously presented) A spherical crocheted object of substantially spherical shape comprising an initial disc made of crocheted rows and having an embroidered portion embroidered thereon, and comprising a further crocheted portion having additional crocheted rows added to the initial disc to form a substantially spherical shape.
22. (original) A spherical crocheted object according to claim 21, wherein the additional crocheted rows form sides of around 36% to around 46% of a total number of crocheted rows of the spherical crocheted object.
23. (previously presented) A crocheted ball comprising an embroidered portion embroidered onto a crocheted surface of the ball using the steps of claim 1.
24. (previously presented) A method of making a spherical crocheted object which comprises embroidering an embroidered portion onto a crocheted surface of the crocheted ball of claim 16.

25. (cancelled)

26. (previously presented) A crocheted ball of substantially spherical shape comprising an embroidered portion embroidered onto a crocheted surface of the ball.

27. (cancelled)

28. (currently amended) A crocheted ball method according to claim 26, wherein the embroidered portion has characteristics sufficient to promulgate a high resolution message, logo, slogan, or advertisement ~~or like image~~.

29. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the embroidery has characteristics sufficient to promulgate a high resolution message, logo, slogan, or advertisement ~~or like image~~.

30. (new) A crocheted ball according to claim 26,

wherein the crocheted surface of the ball consists essentially of a crocheted fabric having inside and outside surfaces; and

wherein the embroidered portion is integral with the crocheted fabric, the embroidered portion comprising embroidery threads bound by stitching directly through the crocheted fabric in loops in a manner that results in a message, logo, slogan, or advertisement on the outside surface of the crocheted fabric, and threads of a same mirrored message, logo, slogan, or advertisement on the inside surface of the crocheted fabric.

31. (new) A crocheted ball according to claim 26, wherein a maximum dimension of the embroidered portion has a diameter of no greater than about 30% of a circumference of the crocheted ball.

32. (new) A crocheted ball according to claim 16,

wherein the crocheted surface of the ball consists essentially of a crocheted fabric having inside and outside surfaces; and

wherein the embroidered portion is integral with the crocheted fabric, the embroidered portion comprising embroidery threads bound by stitching directly through the crocheted fabric in loops in a manner that results in an image on the outside surface of the crocheted fabric, and threads of a same mirrored image on the inside surface of the crocheted fabric.